## Corona: Contact restrictions, closing time and other measures decided

The number of infections in Wiesbaden continues to rise. The administrative staff of the state capital Wiesbaden therefore decided on further measures on Tuesday, Oct. 20. These are based on the requirements of the state in the Hessian prevention and escalation concept.

The following new measures are in effect starting Wednesday, Oct. 21, until (including) Sunday, Nov. 1, for the time being.

Private gatherings with a primarily sociable character (celebrations) outside of apartments with more than ten people are prohibited, especially in commercial rooms and restaurants. For gatherings in private rooms, especially in apartments, it is recommended that a maximum of ten people from a maximum of two households meet.

Gatherings and events as well as cultural offers such as theater, operas, concerts, movie theater and similar events with more than a hundred people are prohibited. In justified individual cases, the health authority can issue exceptions. This is the case if hygiene concepts have already been expressly approved by or coordinated with the health authority. The limit of one hundred people also applies to gatherings of religious communities for the practice of religion as well as for funerals and burials. The restriction also applies to events and guided tours in museums, castles, memorials, zoos and similar institutions.

In restaurants and overnight accommodation places, guests must wear mouth and nose coverings when entering and leaving as well as when lingering in communal areas such as sanitary rooms, cloakrooms and wellness areas.

There is a closing time for restaurants and public entertainment venues between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. throughout the city, that is especially restaurants, pubs, taverns and eateries, "Straußwirtschaften", bars, cafeterias, canteens, hotel restaurants and bars as well as ice cream parlors. Game times in casinos and gambling halls are exempt from the closing time. However, casinos and gambling halls are not allowed to serve alcoholic beverages between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.

No alcoholic beverages may be sold for consumption outside the home between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. The ban applies to restaurants as well as wholesalers and retailers, i.e. in particular to restaurants, pubs, bars, gas stations, kiosks and other sales outlets and similar facilities within the meaning of Section 3, Paragraph 1, of the state's Corona Contact and Business Restriction Ordinance Hessen.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited all day long in the following areas and places: in the area of the "historic pentagon" (bounded by Rheinstraße, Schwalbacher Straße, Röderstraße, Taunusstraße and Wilhelmstraße); in the Kulturpark (limited by Murnaustraße, the footpath at the end of Murnaustraße in the direction of the Deutsche Bahn railway tracks, the Deutsche Bahn railway tracks, the parking lot Salzbauchaue); on Bahnhofsplatz 1-3 (station forecourt) including the adjacent bus stop "Hauptbahnhof" at Kaiser-Friedrich-Ring (bus platform A); in the Reisingeranlage and Herbertanlage; at the area of the Warmer Damm (including the street Am Warmen Damm); at the area of the Bowling Green; on Blücherplatz (bounded by Scharnhorststraße, Yorckstraße, Roonstraße and Blücherstraße) with the exception of the school grounds; on Wallufer Platz (bounded by Wallufer Platz, Hallgarter Straße, the buildings on Erbacher Straße and Niederwaldstraße); in the Nerotalanlage (enclosed by the Nerotal road and Volker-Kriegel-Platz); in the "Eleonoren Anlage", i.e. the Rheinanlage in Mainz-Kastel, (limited by Eleonorenstraße from Johannes-Goßner-Straße, Eleonorenstraße to Rampenstraße to the junction of Rampenstraße towards the banks of the Rhine at house number 26 and by the Rhine); in the area in Wiesbaden-Biebrich next to the Rhine, which is bounded by Rheingaustraße starting from Am Parkfeld street to Wilhelm-Kopp-Straße. The consumption of alcoholic beverages in restaurants including their outside serving area during the respective opening times is excluded from the ban.

Face and chin shields are no longer considered adequate mouth and nose coverings. The wearing of these shields is prohibited in all places where mouth and nose coverings are mandatory. Instead, textile items of clothing (masks) must be worn. Exceptions still apply to children under six years of age and people who cannot wear mouth and nose coverings due to a health impairment or disability. If necessary, this must be proven by a suitable medical certificate, which must be carried along.

Already last week, the administrative staff decided to restrict visits to care facilities. They are in effect starting Wednesday, Oct. 21, to (including) Sunday, Nov. 15. People who live in retirement and nursing homes or in assisted living facilities may then receive visits from a maximum of two people for one hour at a maximum of three times per calendar week. Since Monday, Oct. 19, a general mask requirement has been in force in schools from the fifth grade. Indoor practical physical education is also prohibited in schools for all age groups. No spectators are admitted to indoor trainings and competitions in professional, high-performance and amateur sports, and a maximum of 100 spectators outdoors. The ban on visiting Wiesbaden clinics and the mask requirement at bus stops also continue to be in effect.

Details of all regulations can be found in general regulations. These can be downloaded from wiesbaden.de/coronavirus under "Pressemeldungen und Verordnungen".

"We know that we have decided on drastic measures. However, these are necessary in order to slow down the spread of the corona pandemic again, to protect people from risk groups and to ensure that sufficient treatment capacities are still available in clinics," say Lord Mayor Gert-Uwe Mende and Mayor and Health Secretary Dr. Oliver Franz. "We ask all people who are affected by the measures for their understanding and appeal to all Wiesbaden residents to adhere to the measures."

The infection situation in Wiesbaden continues to worsen. During the last seven days, there were 223 new positive reports. The number of new infections per 100,000 inhabitants within the past seven days (7-day incidence) increased to 76.65. From a 7-day incidence of 35, the prevention and escalation concept of the State of Hessen dictates "extended measures" and from a 7-day incidence of 50 "consequent restriction concepts".

The health authority can be reached by phone at (0611) 312828; Mondays to Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and on the weekends from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The employees of the Hessen-wide Corona hotline answer questions about health and quarantine at (0800) 5554666 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Further questions, concerns and information about the corona virus will be answered Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Current information on the subject of Corona is also available at wiesbaden.de/coronavirus.

https://www.wiesbaden.de/guiapplications/newsdesk/publications/Landeshauptstadt\_Wiesbaden/141 010100000391554.php